



# Third Air Force

## Seventeenth Expeditionary Air Force

### Welcome Letter to Airmen



Welcome to 3d Air Force and 17th Expeditionary Air Force! It is an honor and privilege to return to Germany and serve as the Numbered Air Force Commander with all of you. This is an exciting time to be wearing the Air Force uniform.

My travel around the theater has reaffirmed that our Airmen are the best trained, professional Air Force in the world. Let me take a moment to highlight what I feel is important as we move forward.

### Our Mission

**Be Ready Now to Answer the Call for Airpower!** We must be prepared to meet the call for Airpower. Those solemn words set forth our mission and our calling. Third Air Force/Seventeenth Expeditionary Air Force is the operational, numbered air force for USAFE/AFAFRICA. We employ 10 USAFE/AFAFRICA wings and 3 Expeditionary Groups for 2 Combatant Commands.

**Be Ready Now to direct air forces in Europe and Africa.** Command and Control of air forces is vital to achieve precise effects upon our adversaries. Our AOC is not an isolated facility but rather a vital node to bringing the spectrum of Airpower across global operations.

**Be ready now to build partner capacity and facilitate Coalition teamwork.** Future operations will hinge on strong partnership capacity and trusted Coalition teamwork. As American Airmen, we bring strength and trust to the table in our daily lives and our honoring of the Air Force Core Values. Strong partnerships and Coalition teamwork are not easy to build, maintain and sustain. Remember, trust and strength cannot be surged. We must build partnership capacity through a concerted effort of our presence, training deployments and exercises.

Our three defined mission sets are key to 3 AF enabling the USAFE/AFAFRICA objectives of being **FORWARD, READY, NOW**. **FORWARD** to build partnerships across our AORs, **READY** to execute our core AF competencies and ready **NOW** to support regional and global operations that provide Global Vigilance, Reach and Power.

## Command Priorities

**Our command priorities are simple.** Motivational Mission Accomplishment, Compassionate care of Airmen and families and to improve and innovate. Let me expand on each of these items:


**Motivational Mission Accomplishment** beckons us to execute the mission on a daily basis with an invigorated sense of purpose. Don't let a day pass without reflecting on the fact that we are Airmen in the World's Greatest Air Force and that I take pride in each and every mission that you embark upon.

**Compassionate Care of Airmen and families** speaks to all the elements of taking care of our most valuable resource. Take time to explore the different opportunities available to maintain a healthy life. The RuFit program ensures that we have the appropriate resources to maintain a balanced lifestyle.

**Improve and Innovate** calls for us to look at all of our operations and processes to find a better way to conduct the mission. Airmen are key to success and I need your help to evaluate each task with a mindset of improvement and innovation.

## Closing

Thank you for your service and dedication! Our nation is proud of you and your contributions...welcome!



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Commander